(b) Normally, only general cargo is containerisable since the liquid and solid cargoes are effectively handled and carried in bulk as it is economical and faster. The aggregate cargo handled by major ports during 2001 -02 consisted of 53.46 MT general cargo of which 37.22 MT, inlcuding small parcels of dry bulk and liquid bulk cargoes also, representing about 70%, were shipped in containers.

(c) The container handling capacity in major ports at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan period in March, 2002 was 37.00 MTPA. During the Tenth Plan (2002-2007) period additional capacities at the major ports are envisaged to be created for container handling to the extent of 24.50 MTPA, mainly through private sector investment, to cope with the anticipated growth in container traffic.

Atrocities of SCs/STs

1912. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atrocities on SCs/STs are on the increase in the country particularly in the State of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As per the crime statistics of the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, there has been very slight increase in incidence of crime against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 29,645 cases in the year 2000 to 29,683 cases in the year 2001. So far as the State of Rajasthan is concerned the incidence of crime against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has declined from 6320 cases in the year 2000 to 5915 cases in the year 2001.

Trained technicians for handicapped persons

†1913. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trained technicians for five crore handicapped persons of India, which constitute one-tenth of the total number of handicapped persons in the wortd;

† Origina! notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of recognized training centres throughout the country for the training of these technicians;

(c) the programmes being implemented by Government in rural areas to create awareness among people in this regard; and

(d) the percentage of reservations available to handicapped persons in Government jobs on the basis of various types of disability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As per report of the Rehabilitation Council of India, there are 66,738 registered rehabilitation professionals and personnel and 160 recognized training centres functioning in the country with a total capacity of 3200 admissions per year;

(c) Government has started awareness generation compaign in selected districts in a phased manner. In addition, there is a provision of counseling on the role of prevention, early intervention and rehabilitation in rural areas by the Viklang Bandhu who is a motivated village level volunteer. The National Institutes and Composite Rehabilitation Centres also run short programmes and distribute publicity material for this purpose.

(d) There is a provision of reservation in identified posts in Government and semi Government institutions to the extent of 3 per cent of vacancies per persons with disabilities of which one per cent each shall be for persons suffering form (i) blindness or low vision; (ii) hearing impairment and (iii) locomotors disability or cerebral palsy.

Inclusion of 'Thachar' Community in SC list

1914. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to FREER TO ANSWER to starred question 572 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th May, 2002 and state:

(a) whether Government have received any comments from the State Government of Kerala regarding the inclusion of Thachar community in the Scheduled Caste list; and

(b) if so the action taken thereof?